

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Public Health	(2) MEETING DATE 10/23/2012	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Penny Borenstein / 781-5519	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve 1) a renewal agreement (Clerk's File) with the California Department of Public Health for FY 2012-13 in the amount of \$801,516 for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program; 2) an amendment to the fixed asset list to purchase a software application for emergency medical field personnel (\$10,000); and 3) a related budget adjustment in the amount of \$107,464 from unanticipated revenue for Fund Center 160 - Public Health.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Approve and direct the Chairperson to sign a renewal agreement with the State Department of Public Health in the amount of \$801,516 to fund Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) activities, pandemic flu planning and the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) activities and to sign the accompanying certifications that the funds shall not be used to supplant other funding for the program, or for lobbying;</li> <li>2) Amend the fixed asset list in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase a software application for emergency medical personnel to increase access to patient treatment protocols in the pre-hospital setting;</li> <li>3) Approve a budget adjustment in the amount of \$107,464 from unanticipated revenue to Fund Center 160 – Public Health to fund the added Fixed Asset and other program related expenses (4/5 vote is required); and</li> <li>4) Authorize the Health Agency Director or designee to sign any amendments to the recommended agreement with the California Department of Public Health related to the Emergency Preparedness Program that does not increase the level of General Fund Support.</li> </ol>			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$840,242	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$840,242	(9) BUDGETED? \$732,778 – budgeted \$107,464 – not budgeted
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. _____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. _____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR)  N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: 1213033 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP  N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT?  No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY  <input type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date <u>October 25, 2011</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Reviewed by Leslie Brown			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts -			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Jeff Hamm, Health Agency Director  
Penny Borenstein, MD, MPH, Health Officer

DATE: October 23, 2012

SUBJECT: Request to approve 1) a renewal agreement (Clerk's File) with the California Department of Public Health for FY 2012-13 in the amount of \$801,516 for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness program; 2) an amendment to the fixed asset list to purchase a software application for emergency medical field personnel (\$10,000); and 3) a related budget adjustment in the amount of \$107,464 from unanticipated revenue for Fund Center 160 - Public Health.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board:

- 1) Approve and direct the Chairperson to sign a renewal agreement with the State Department of Public Health in the amount of \$801,516 to fund Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) activities, pandemic flu planning and the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) activities and to sign the accompanying certifications that the funds shall not be used to supplant other funding for the program, or for lobbying;
- 2) Amend the fixed asset list in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase a software application for emergency medical personnel to increase access to patient treatment protocols in the pre-hospital setting;
- 3) Approve a budget adjustment in the amount of \$107,464 from unanticipated revenue to Fund Center 160 – Public Health to fund the added Fixed Asset and other program related expenses (4/5 vote is required); and
- 4) Authorize the Health Agency Director or designee to sign any amendments to the recommended agreement with the California Department of Public Health related to the Emergency Preparedness Program that does not increase the level of General Fund Support.

## **DISCUSSION**

The Health Agency's Public Health Department is requesting approval of a renewal agreement with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to offset communications planning, equipment and supplies, and drills with Health Agency staff to improve the Department's response to public health emergencies. The Agreement includes four funding streams as described below.

Since 2001, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided funding to States to prepare for bioterrorism, pandemics, and public health emergencies and to assist hospitals and supporting health care systems in delivering coordinated care to victims of such emergencies. In 2002, the County began receiving such funding for public health emergency preparedness. The County has continued to receive funds for these purposes since that time.

The grant renewal agreement was received in July. However, the State did not approve the detailed budget for this program until mid-September. The renewal agreement continues to support the following funding streams which each must be spent or encumbered by June 30, 2013:

- CDC Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program (CDC PHEP)
- CDC Public Health Laboratory Funds (CDC PHL)
- Hospital Preparedness Program Funds (HPP)
- California Department of Public Health Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (CA Pan Flu)

#### **Public Health Emergency Preparedness (CDC PHEP)**

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness (CDC PHEP) portion of the agreement supports the continuation and improvement of local public health preparedness efforts for and response to bioterrorism, outbreaks of infectious disease and other public health threats and emergencies. Planning and preparation is based on a capabilities-based planning process, with work plans designed to address items identified in recently completed vulnerability assessments.

In FY 2011-12, the CDC outlined 15 Target Capabilities for public health preparedness across the country. The California Department of Public Health has targeted the following 10 capabilities for work by counties in FY 2012-13 and will add additional functions and capability requirements in the coming years as proficiency is gained in these areas:

#### **Priority Level 1**

- Public Health Surveillance and Epidemiologic Investigations
- Public Health Laboratory Testing
- Emergency Operations Coordination
- Emergency Public Information and Warning
- Information Sharing
- Community Preparedness
- Medical Countermeasures Dispensing
- Medical Materiel Management and Distribution

#### **Priority Level 2**

- Responder Safety and Health

#### **Priority Level 3**

- Mass Care

#### **Public Health Laboratory Funds (CDC PHL)**

The PHL portion of the agreement is for the continued development of the County Public Health Laboratory capacity to serve as a regional bioterrorism Laboratory Reference Network (LRN) resource for San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. This component supports microbiology staff and laboratory supplies. The LRN staff works with regional partners, including the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), to fulfill the requisite work plan to implement, maintain, update and coordinate testing policies and procedures for Class A bioterrorism agents.

#### **Hospital Preparedness Plan (HPP)**

The HPP portion of the agreement supports hospitals, clinics, local emergency medical services organizations and other healthcare providers in health care system response to an emergency event. The five year strategy driving this program focuses on the development of an effective healthcare partnership with both the public and private sectors. Achieving the goals of the grant is measured by progress on "Target Capabilities" organized into priority levels by the California Department of Public Health. It should be noted that while Priority Level 2 items are included in the capabilities list, the State is not requiring this agency to address the capabilities during the current grant cycle.

**Priority Level 1**

- Healthcare System Preparedness
- Healthcare System Recovery
- Emergency Operations Coordination
- Information Sharing
- Medical Surge
- Volunteer Management

**Priority Level 2**

- Fatality Management
- Responder Safety and Health

**California Pandemic Influenza Preparedness (CA Pan Flu)**

The CA Pan Flu portion of the agreement is for continued improvement of pandemic influenza planning including maintenance of the California Disaster Healthcare Volunteer (DHV) Program, Alternate Care Site planning and preparedness for at-risk populations. Funding supports a pandemic influenza coordinator, training and recruitment for Medical Reserve Corps and DHV members and travel to regional meetings to further coordination of these programs with Ventura and Santa Barbara counties.

Acceptance and utilization of these funds will allow the Public Health Department, partner agencies and the overall emergency medical services system within the County to better prepare for and respond to public health emergencies, including biological terrorism events, pandemic influenza and other epidemics of emerging diseases, and mass casualty events.

The additional items funded by the recommended budget adjustment help fulfill the grant goals to increase the County's ability to respond to emergencies. The funds will allow the Department to purchase: laboratory equipment and medical supplies for improved response to biological and other public health events, communications equipment for training exercises for healthcare providers and Health Agency staff and tools to help emergency medical services entities communicate and access real time information during events.

The recommended fixed asset purchase (software application for emergency field personnel) will provide real-time access to Advance Life Support (ALS) treatment protocols, and base station hospital contact information with an opportunity to expand the solution to connect dispatch feeds and hospital routing. Currently, ALS providers (Fire and Ambulance) are manually updating a printed booklet that has not been printed since 2007, with treatment protocols changing on a regular basis. This application will facilitate current and appropriate levels of care in the pre-hospital setting.

The Department is requesting that the Board delegate authority to the Health Agency Director, or designee, to execute future FY 2012-13 amendments with the State Department of Public Health for emergency preparedness activities, which do not increase General Fund support and are subject to the review of County Counsel, that require prompt execution in order to meet federal grant timelines.

In order to receive these funds, the State requires the signed agreement is received no later than October 30, 2012.

**OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

The Public Health Department coordinates administration of all grants with the participation of multiple agencies. The HPP grant requires coordination with all local hospitals, community health clinics, urgent care centers, ambulance providers, the Long-Term Care Ombudsman, skilled nursing facilities and other healthcare providers. The Pandemic Influenza and CDC PHEP grants involve coordination with multiple agencies through the Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Advisory Committee (PHEPAC), which includes representatives from County Fire, Sheriff's Department, California Highway Patrol, Mental Health, American Red Cross, Cal Poly, Animal Services, Department of Public Works, local law enforcement agencies, hospitals, and Pacific Gas and Electric. Due to the broad reaching effects of a potential pandemic, other County agency involvement includes County Counsel, County Office of Education, private medical representatives and religious leaders.

County Counsel has reviewed the renewal agreement as to form and legal effect.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The Public Health Emergency Preparedness Grant is 100% federally funded. The FY 2011-12 PHEP agreement from the California Department of Public Health was in the amount of \$745,053.

Public Health's FY 2012-13 adopted budget includes expense and revenue in the amount of \$732,778. The FY 2012-13 PHEP renewal agreement is in the amount of \$801,516, an increase of \$68,738 compared to the adopted budget. Additionally, \$38,726 of unspent FY 2011-12 PHEP funding is available to spend in FY 2012-13 for emergency preparedness activities. The budget adjustment represents the increase in allocation compared to budget of \$68,738 and \$38,726 of unspent carry over funds from FY 2011-12, for a total increase of \$107,464. The increase in funds will be used to purchase laboratory equipment (totaling \$24,205) such as a centrifuge, refrigerator, biosafety hood, microscope and other equipment under the fixed asset limit, a software application (fixed asset) for emergency field personnel (\$10,000), laboratory supplies (\$30,000), hospital contractors (\$13,438), satellite phones (\$4,721), training (\$8,001), laptop, projector and software (\$7,475), HVAC Certification (\$6,000) and other associated PHEP expenses (\$3,624).

Approval of the grant agreement will not increase the level of general fund required for the Public Health Department.

## **RESULTS**

Adoption of the renewal agreement will help ensure that the County continues to develop comprehensive plans and procedures in order to ably respond to public health emergencies of all types. The findings will continue to foster ongoing relationships and strengthen ties between the Public Health Department, the medical community, emergency responders and the general public. During FY 2012-13, the agreement will specifically fund the following:

- Training for new Health Agency employees in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and their roles as disaster service workers within the Health Agency.
- Coordination of our County's Mass Vaccination Exercise in October 2012 and participation in the California Statewide Medical and Health Exercise in November 2012.
- Communications equipment including satellite phones and hand-held radios for hospitals, EMS and other healthcare partners to assist in coordination during large medical surge events and exercises.
- Planning with community partners and writing of Alternate Care Site Plans and procedures to meet medical surge capacity in events where current bed capacity and staffing is not sufficient.
- Year-round syndromic surveillance with hospitals to identify ongoing trends in community disease patterns and potential outbreaks.
- Maintenance of public health communication and notification systems including Reddinet, CAHAN and the public health rapid faxing/emailing system used to notify disaster workers, healthcare providers and the public in emergencies.
- Completion of Continuity of Operations Plan for the County Health Agency as well as revisions of Standard Operating Procedures for the County Health Agency Department Operations Center (CHADOC) and First Responder Points of Distribution (FRPODs).
- Improved laboratory testing capacity for response to public health emergencies and requests from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Collectively these results will support one of the County goals, that of a Safe and Livable Community.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Clerk's File Statement for Public Health Emergency Preparedness Agreement